Previous file No.

MILITARY COLLECTION No. 386

IOR: L/MIL/7/15798

File 12.

GENERAL HEADING - British West Africa

SUB-HEAD - Supply of Native Commissioned Officers for West Africa Frontier Force.

2 to No. 115 dated 4 Oct	India, p. 10 1900.	Asks if 22 Native Commissioned officers can be lent for West Africa Frontier Force.
2 from No. 33 dated 7 Mar	India, p. 1901.	Terms on which officers can be supplied
No. dated	India, p. 190 .	
No. dated	India, p. 190 .	
No. dated	India, p. 190 .	
No. dated	India, p. 190 .	
No. dated	India, p. 190 .	
No. dated	India, p. 190 .	

1900. M. 8389

1901. M. 3448.

190 . M.

190 . M.

Memoranda.

Next file No.

Y 5704. 500.—11/1900. I. 2046.

(2)

Return to Mr. _____ *Copy for* _____

MARKED OFF

MILITARY DEPARTMENT FORM 10.

M
3448
1901

DRAFT LETTER PAPER.

Addressed to the Under Sec. of State
Colonial Office

INDIA OFFICE,

10 APL. 1901

With reference to the letter from this Office of the 12th Sept. 1900, M 8389,

I am directed to ~~acknowledge the receipt of your letter of~~ forward herewith, ~~copy of a despatch~~ and to acquaint you in reply that for the information of Mr Secretary Chamberlain, copy of a despatch from the Govt of India regarding the conditions on which the Govt of India are prepared to provide a number of Native Officers of the Indian Army to replace the Non-British Commissioned Officers of the West African

Reminder in _____ *weeks.*

Noted for _____

No 33 of 7th March 1907.

I shd think we might as well send this on now.

2080
J.B.

m. cvr.

(Form 10.)

9276. I. 2010. 5000.—11/1900.

F.W.J.
9/4/07

African Frontier Force.

With reference to the proposal regarding the division of pensionary charge referred to at the end of the despatch I am to state that the principles in question are now under discussion with the Secretary of State for War.

(Sd) E. STEDMAN.

(3)

M
3448
1901.

Reference Paper. Military Department.

Referred to Financial Dept. The 2nd April 1901.

For any observations.

J Ellerman

F
1738
1901

It is intended to propose that any division of pensionary charge, according to respective periods of service, to which the War Office may agree in regard to Officers and men of the Indian Establishment serving out of India, shall be similarly effected with reference to Troops on duty of which the cost is not paid from Army Votes, as mentioned at the close of paragraph 4 of the despatch No. 24 of 1900.

But it has been thought better to await a reply to the letter addressed to the War

(Form 24.)

Y 4302. 1500.—8/99. I. 1389.

War Office on the 12th of March, before taking further steps in the matter.

I think, however, that, if a communication is now made to the Colonial Office, respecting the service of Natives of India with the West African Frontier Force, it should be mentioned that such a plan is under discussion, and that they could only be lent on some such conditions as to pension.

Henry Waterfield.

April 4. 1901.

MARKED OF

(4)

1901.

pp. 8389/00

M
3 448
1901

FORT WILLIAM.

Military Department.

Separate.

No. 33, dated the 7th March 1901.

(Copy.)

Despatch to His Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

Proposed replacement of the British non-commissioned officers of the West African Frontier Force by Native commissioned officers from the Indian Army.

M. D. Press—Reg. No. 1626— 2-3-01—30.

(5)

M
3 448
1901

No. 33 of 1901.

Military Department.

To

THE RIGHT HON'BLE LORD GEORGE FRANCIS HAMILTON,

HIS MAJESTY'S SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

Fort William, the 7th March 1901.

My Lord,

We have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Lordship's military despatch No. 115, dated the 4th October 1900 (M-8389), with paragraph 10 of which is forwarded for early report copy of correspondence with the Colonial Office regarding a proposal for the replacement of the British non-commissioned officers of the West African Frontier Force by Native commissioned officers from the Indian Army. Twenty-two Native officers are required, and it is desired that they should be picked men and Punjabi Mahomedans or Sikhs.

2. With reference to this application we forward a copy of a letter from the Adjutant-General in which the Commander-in-Chief strongly deprecates the proposal to supply Native officers only, or to furnish all of them from the Punjab Command. We fully concur in His Excellency's views, but we are desirous of assisting the Imperial Government as far as may be possible without appreciably weakening the Indian Army, and we are prepared to provide the required number of men, selecting them from all four Commands, on the understanding that a proportion will consist of capable non-commissioned officers who will be commissioned before being sent to Africa. We would further propose that all the Native officers should be seconded in their regiments for two years, and that if during that period they are promoted to a higher rank for service in Africa, such rank should be local only and lapse on reversion to their regiment which they would rejoin in the rank held on proceeding to Africa. Should any of the Native officers re-engage for service in Africa after the completion of the first term of two years they should be struck off the strength of the Indian Army and permanently join the West African Frontier

RECEIVED
23 MAR 1901
INDIA OFFICE

Force, their pensions forming a charge to be proportionately divided between the Indian revenues and those of the local administration, according to the principles formulated in Your Lordship's despatch No. 24, dated 22nd February 1900.

Finance Colln. 248/6

We have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servants,

Signed) CURZON.

„ EDWIN H. H. COLLEN.

„ A. C. TREVOR.

„ C. M. RIVAZ.

„ T. RALEIGH.

„ E. FG. LAW.

(6)

List of enclosure of despatch No. 33, (Military), dated the 7th March 1901, from the Government of India, in the Military Department, to His Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

Serial No.	Number and date of paper.	From whom or to whom.	Subject.
1	No. 3494-B, dated 5th December 1900.	From Adjutant-General in India.	Views of the Commander-in-Chief on the proposal for the replacement of the British non-commissioned officers of the West African Frontier Force by Native commissioned officers from the Indian Army.

(Signed) E. DEBRATH,

Depy. Secy. to the Govt. of India,

Military Department.

List of enclosure of despatch No. 33, (Military), dated the 7th March 1901, from the Government of India, in the Military Department, to His Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

Serial No.	Number and date of paper.	From whom or to whom.	Subject.
1	No. 3194-B, dated 5th December 1900.	From Adjutant-General in India.	Views of the Commander-in-Chief on the proposal for the replacement of the British non-commissioned officers of the West African Frontier Force by Native commissioned officers from the Indian Army.

(Signed) E. H. H. COLLEN,
Secy. Secy. to the Govt. of India,
Military Department.

Enclosure of despatch No. 33, dated the 7th March 1901.

Enclosure No. 1.

No. 3494-B, *Special and Miscellaneous*, dated Simla, 5th December 1900.

From—Major-General Sir E. R. Elles, K.C.B., Officiating Adjutant-General in India,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of Military Department memorandum No. 3216-B, dated 6th November 1900, forwarding, for the opinion of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, a copy of correspondence with the Colonial Office regarding a proposal for the replacement of the British non-commissioned officers of the West African Frontier Force by Indian Native commissioned officers.

2. In reply, I am directed by the Commander-in-Chief to state that, having in view the great drain which the measure would entail upon the Native commissioned ranks of the Native Army in general, and of Punjab infantry regiments in particular, His Excellency is averse to Native officers being supplied from the Native Army for the training of the West African Frontier Force. There are also other objections to Native officers being taken for a fixed period and then returning to their regiments. Provided, however, that certain conditions, which are given below, are agreed to, the Commander-in-Chief considers that non-commissioned officers of the classes desired may be supplied; such non-commissioned officers to be promoted as Native officers on being selected for service with the West African Frontier Force.

3. The conditions which His Excellency would recommend as necessary to impose with regard to non-commissioned officers who may be selected, are:—

(*a*) That such non-commissioned officers be struck off the strength of the Native Army.

(*b*) That all previous service of such non-commissioned officers in the Native Army be allowed to count towards pension in their new service.

4. His Excellency is of opinion that men carefully selected for these appointments would be found more efficient for the purposes required than Native officers already holding commissions.

MARKED OFF.
INDEXED

MILITARY DEPARTMENT FORM 5.

M
8389
1900

(8)

EXTRACT

MILITARY DESPATCH TO THE GOVERNMENT OF India

No. 115 para. 10

Dated 4 Oct 1900.

M 8389.

10. I forward, for your information, copy of correspondence* with the Colonial Office regarding a proposal for the replacement of the British non-commissioned officers of the West African Frontier Force by Native Indian commissioned officers, on which I shall be glad to receive an early report from your Government.

* From Colonial Office, dated 21st August 1900, and enclosures.
To ditto, dated 12th September 1900.

(Form 5.)

Y 24231. 5000.--3/93. I. 692.

Return to Mr. Newmarch

Copy for

MARKED OFF.
INDEXED

MILITARY DEPARTMENT FORM 10.

DRAFT LETTER PAPER.

M
8389
1900

Addressed to U. S. of S
Colonial Office

Reminder in weeks

Noted for

INDIA OFFICE,

12 SEP. 1900

Sir

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 21st August, No. 19945/1900 regarding the proposed ~~and to acquaint you in reply that~~ engagement of a certain number ~~of~~ of Indian native officers for service in Northern Nigeria.

In reply I am to state that your letter, with its enclosures, will be forwarded to the Government of India for report, but that Lord George Hamilton is doubtful whether it will be found practicable at the present time to comply with Brig. General Lugard's proposals in view of the constant drain upon

Rec'd London 12 Sept. 1900

(Form 10.)

Y 4628. 5000.—11/99. I. 1994.

upon the fighting races of
India which have for some
time past been a source of
some uneasiness to the
government of that country —

I.H.

H. (Sr.) Horace Walpole.

INDEXED

Copy. (10)

417

Minute Paper.

M
8389
1900

Military Department.

Letter No.

Received August 1900.

Formally acknowledged

	Date.	Initials.
Under Secretary.....	31.VIII.00	E/
Secretary of State.....	31	
Committee	1 Sep	C.H.
Under Secretary.....	5.9.00	W
Secretary of State.....		
Council	6	

West African Frontier Force

Application for native Indian officers —

Approved Council, 2 Sept. 1900.
Letter to Colonial Office
Despatch to
Telegram to

Mil. Sec. Mr.
No. M. 8389 dated 12 Sept 1900.
No. „ 190 .
No. „ 190 .

Paper on the COUNCIL TABLE 11

The Colonial Secretary has had under consideration the question of replacing the British non-comd officers of the West African Frontier Force, either (1) gradually by native Africans, or (2) by Indian non-commissioned officers or (3) by native Indian commissioned officers —

The latter course is strongly recommended to him by Brigadier General Lugard

(Form 15.)

Y 4631. 1500 —11/99. I 1997.

Lugard, on the advice of Colonel Willcocks ; and the Colonial Office asks whether this plan is practicable _ The number of officers required is 22 (3 adjutants and 19 Jemadars) ; and Colonel Willcocks would like to go and select them personally in India, choosing "young native officers full of vigour, good English scholars in some cases" etc.

It is very doubtful whether the Govt. of India would agree to this, especially at the present time when there are so many calls upon the native army.

A draft letter to the Colonial Office in this sense is submitted, and it is proposed to send the C.O letter 3 enclosures to the Govt. of India for report, together with the reply _ This may be done by a para in a general Despatch

Communications on this subject should be addressed to—

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
COLONIAL OFFICE,
LONDON, S.W.,

and the following Number quoted. 19945/1900.

M
8389
1900

Downing Street,

21 August, 1900.

Brig.Gen.Lugard
August 31, 1900. 1899

To Brig.Gen.Lugard
No 54. March 6th 1900

Brig.Gen.Lugard
No 52.April 23rd 1900

Sir,

I am directed by Mr Secretary Chamberlain to transmit to you, to be laid before Secretary Lord George Hamilton, a copy of correspondence with Brigadier General F.D.Lugard, C.B.,D.S.O., High Commissioner of Northern Nigeria, on the subject of a possible reduction in the numbers of British Non-Commissioned Officers serving with the West African Frontier Force in the Protectorate.

2. The employment of these Non Commissioned Officers was resorted to in the first instance as a temporary measure, as Mr Chamberlain hoped that in a few years' time the native soldiers (Hausas and Yorubas) would be sufficiently trained to perform all the duties of Non Commissioned Officers. Brigadier General Lugard, however, in his letter of the 31st of August 1899, proposed that Sikh or Punjabi Non Commissioned Officers should gradually replace the British Non Commissioned Officers, as to whose suitability for service in the Protectorate, apart from the question of expense, he had received unfavourable reports. In Mr Chamberlain's reply to this letter, dated the 6th of March last, Brigadier General

The Under Secretary of State,

INDIA OFFICE.

M
8389
1900

General Lugard's attention was called to the original scheme of substituting Hausas or Yorubas for British Non Commissioned Officers, and he was asked whether, if Indian Non Commissioned Officers were appointed as he suggested, he considered that in two years time the Native African soldiers would be capable of performing the necessary duties, and thus allow the Indian Non Commissioned Officers to be dispensed with

3. From Brigadier General Lugard's despatch No 52 of the23rd of April it appears that he and Colonel Sir James Willcocks, Commandant of the Force, are of opinion that the Hausas and Yorubas will not, at least for some years, be sufficiently trained to discharge all the duties of Non Commissioned Officers. He puts forward in this despatch a new scheme, the adoption of which is strongly recommended by Sir James Willcocks, whereby instead of introducing Indian Non Commissioned Officers into the Force, a certain number of Indian native officers should be selected for service in Northern Nigeria, which number should be gradually diminished as the Hausas and Yorubas became more efficient. The number of these officers to be engaged at the outset would be 22 (3 Adjutants and 19 Jemadars) who would receive pay at the rates set forth in the 4th paragraph of Brigadier General Lugard's despatch.

4. I am to inform you that Mr Chamberlain is prepared to recommend to the Treasury the adoption of Brigadier General Lugard's scheme, provided that Lord George Hamilton considers that there are no practical difficulties in the course proposed, and I am to request that Mr Chamberlain may be favoured

with

with His Lordship's opinion in the matter. If he should consider that the scheme may be adopted, Mr Chamberlain would be glad to learn whether the suggestion that Colonel Sir James Willcocks should take steps either personally or by letter to select suitable officers is one that receives his Lordship's approval.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. P. Lucas

COPY

WEST AFRICAN FRONTIER FORCE

NO. 54.

Downing Street,

6th March 1900.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that I have had under my consideration your letter No. 517 L, of the 31st of August last, in which you suggested that the British Non-Commissioned Officers employed in the West African Frontier Force should be gradually replaced by Sikh or Punjabi Mohammedan Non-Commissioned Officers from India.

2. As you are aware, the employment of British Non-Commissioned Officers in the West African Frontier Force is a temporary measure, intended to cover the interval between the raising of the West African Frontier Force and the time at which Hausas and Yorubas would be sufficiently trained to perform the duties of Non-Commissioned Officers, as in the other Colonial Military Forces in West Africa. It was contemplated that the numbers of the British Non-Commissioned Officers should be reduced gradually as more and more natives reached such a degree of efficiency as to be competent to replace them and the first step in this direction has been taken by reducing the number of the British Non-Commissioned Officers attached to the Infantry Companies by two-fifths and of those attached to the Artillery Batteries by one half. You are also aware that I am prepared to allow a proportion of Native Officers to be employed, if this course is recommended, in addition to the British Commissioned Officers.

3. In

HIG

3. In order that the process of reduction may be continued, I have to request you to report from time to time how the training of native Non-Commissioned Officers is progressing, and to what extent the Establishment of British Non-Commissioned Officers may safely be reduced. It is necessary to fix a date at which the substitution of native Non-Commissioned Officers should be complete, in order that it may be spread over the period allowed by a gradual and systematic process, and I consider that this date should be the 1st of April 1902.

4. If, notwithstanding the fact that British Non-Commissioned Officers will thus eventually disappear from the West African Frontier Force, you are still disposed to urge that Sikh or Punjabi Non-Commissioned Officers should be employed, I would remind you that Sikhs and Punjabis also would have to be eliminated by the same gradual process, and that I should still expect Hausas and Yorubas to be sufficiently trained to undertake all the duties of Non-Commissioned Officers by the 1st of April, 1902. The Sikhs and Punjabis would certainly be less costly than British Non-Commissioned Officers,, but you will probably hesitate to think it worth while to organise their introduction for so short a period. If, however, you think that Indian Non-Commissioned Officers can be advantagecusly and economically employed during these two years, I will give my careful consideration to any prepared scheme ready for immediate adoption which you may lay before me.

I have &c,

(SGD) J. CHAMBERLAIN.

HIGH COMMISSIONER

BRIGADIER GENERAL

F. D. LUGARD, C.B., D.S.O.,

&c. &c. &c.

COPY

W.A.F.F.
N.C.Os.

(16)

M
8389
1900

39, St. James Place, S.W.,
31st August ~~1900.~~ 1899

No. 517. L.

Sir,

In the Memorandum attached to my No. 486 of the 24th August, on the organisation of the West African Frontier Force, I proposed for Mr. Chamberlain's consideration that British N.C. Officers should be gradually replaced by Sikh or Punjabi Mohammedan N.C. Officers from India, and that a certain number of these should be at once engaged. I have now the honour to lay before you in greater detail my proposals on this head.

2. The establishment in Africa of British N.C. Officers was during the first year five per Company, exclusive of Battalion Staff. It is now proposed to reduce this to one per company serving in Africa. Even so, the expense of these British N.C. Officers for to maintain this one efficient per Company is great, and the Regimental Staff and Clerks, an establishment of 54 (exclusive of armourers) is required. Added to this are the passages, rations, gratuities on expiry of service, outfits, expensive Camp equipment (tents &c) houses, and many such contingent expenses. The cost of the British N.C. Officer in Africa is therefore exceedingly great, and only a fraction of this cost is represented by his mere pay and allowances. In my desire to find some direction in which I could make recommendations in accordance with Mr. Chamberlain's wish that the cost of the Force

should

should be reduced it has seemed to me that the only possible direction for economy at present is in respect of the British N.C. Officer Staff. That Staff, as I have pointed out in my Memorandum, has been reduced to the very utmost margin of safety and efficiency, considering the lack of trained native N.C. Officers and the other exceptional circumstances of Northern Nigeria described in my Memorandum, and economy can therefore only be introduced by the substitution of a less expensive article to replace the British N.C. Officer.

3. Colonel Willcocks is an Officer of very exceptional Indian experience. He has served in that country all his life, and his very varied service in a series of campaigns and Staff appointments has brought him into contact with almost every Regiment of the Indian Army. He speaks Hindustani as perhaps no other Officer in the British Service and few in the Indian Army speak it. He has I believe acquired a personal influence with the Frontier Regiment which is rare. I therefore recommend to you with confidence the views he expresses in answer to a series of questions from me on this subject.

4. He strongly believes in the practicability from all points of view of the proposal, provided that the men are drawn from Punjabi Regiments only. They should be Punjabi Mohammedans or Sikhs; half the number sent should speak English. One Native Officer per battalion should be sent with the N.C. Officers and should be appointed native adjutant of the Battalion. They would, he thinks, soon acquire the local language, especially if rewards were offered for

colloquial

colloquial proficiency. On the other hand there are many Hindustani-speaking Officers with the Force.

5. The rates of pay would be much the same as for the Madrasees, with Good Conduct pay and free rations on the Indian Field Service scale. The period of service to be for three years with six months leave on full pay in India on completion of it.

6. With regard to the question of women. Colonel Willcocks thinks that wives should not be allowed to accompany the men during the first tour of service, but might be sanctioned for a man returning for a second tour, for he would then probably remain for good and not return to India. Plots of freehold land might be given to such men on the completion of their service, and would probably lead to the formation of a Sikh or Punjabi Mohammedan Colony, such as have been established in Assam, Burmah and British Central Africa, and the Malay States, Australia and elsewhere. This "Jagir-dar" system - well understood by the Sikh and Indian Mohammedan - is one I have advocated since 1888, but as it cannot take effect for some years there is no occasion to discuss it at the present moment. I desire, however, to ask that I may be furnished confidentially with a copy of the printed correspondence between the Indian Government and the Chief Commissioner of Assam on the subject of Sikh and Mohammedan emigration and Colonisation. I have no means of obtaining this, but the India Office would doubtless have no objection to furnishing it.

7. At the same time as these N. C. Officers are asked for - if Mr. Chamberlain approves the proposal -

I would recommend that a small number of Indian native or Eurasian "apothecaries" and hospital attendants should be brought over with a view to replacing the British N. C. Officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps. A few native Cavalry soldiers to take charge of the Government horses would also be most valuable. I have strong hopes that the projected move of the Headquarters Administration from the river valley to the Interior will result in a saving of the present mortality among ponies and if in addition to the change of locality they are properly attended to by men who understand and love horses, (and possibly fed on imported forage during the rains) I feel confident that I shall save the heavy annual loss to Government.

8. If Mr. Chamberlain approves of these suggestions with a view to economy in the Force, Colonel Willcocks can personally obtain the best class of men by writing to the Commanding Officers of the crack Sikh Corps who are his intimate friends, and I very strongly urge this course, for the success of the experiment will depend on the men first appointed, and the report they give to their friends in India regarding the nature and advantages of the service. No less will it be essential for us to have the best men while the Force is as yet young.

9. The Indian Native N.C. Officer of the class proposed is a first class fighting man, and is acclimatised to the tropics. Though he may suffer to some extent at first (as the Madrasees did) from the change of Climate he will not have to be invalided like the British N. C. Officer, and his housing,

food

food and equipment will be immeasurably cheaper. Private news from West Africa brings me worse and worse accounts of the British N.C. Officers, and it appears to be the opinion of the senior Officers there that they are almost useless, while alcoholism seems to be on the increase. The example of low class white men in a new and savage country is one which does incalculable harm, and in my opinion is not compensated by any valour in the field or proficiency in drill.

I have &c,

(SGD) F. D. LUGARD.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

J. CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.

COPY

W. A. F. F.

NO. 52.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

JEBBA, 23rd April, 1900.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your No. 54, of March 6th, relative to the employment of Sikhs or other British Indian Soldiers to replace British Non-Commissioned Officers with the West African Frontier Force.

2. I have always strongly advocated the gradual elimination of the British Non-Commissioned Officer whose rates of pay, gratuities on expiry of service, passages, rations, outfits, etc. add so greatly to the cost of the Force, but I am of opinion that he cannot wholly be replaced by native Non-Commissioned Officers nor is this the case in other Colonial Military Forces in West Africa. In spite of the fact that those Forces have not heretofore been Military Forces, but Constabulary, it has been found necessary to have native Officers as well as native Non-Commissioned Officers and to send home at considerable expense parties of such men to England to be trained.

You inform me in your letter under reply that you are prepared to allow a proportion of Native Officers to the Force, and my recommendation is that these Native Officers should be British Indians.

There is no class in this country from whom it is possible(so far as I am aware) to obtain Native Officers and though a Native Adjutant has been sanctioned on the strength of each Battalion since it was raised,

and

and an expensive outfit sent out for him I have never been able to fill that single appointment. I have appealed in vain to the Governors of each of the West Coast Colonies to spare me one good man fit for appointment as Native Adjutant to help to drill and train the raw recruits.

Not one could be spared from any Colony.

3. I would propose that one Sikh or Punjabi Mohammedan Native Officer should be appointed to each Company (of 150 native infantry) <u>at once,</u> and these could probably be reduced later to one Adjutant and 4 Wing Officers per Battalion andlater still possibly to 1 Adjutant and 2 Wing Officers per Battalion. Their pay should be, for an Adjutant, £15. per month, for a Jemadar, £12. per month with 1/- a day for rations and with free quarters, period of service 2 years in Africa.

The Establishment for the Sierra Leone 3 Company Battalion laid down in the Inter Departmental Committee's report allows 4 Native Subalterns for 3 Companies at a total of £595. or £149 each per annum. This proportion is higher than that I suggest though the Sierra Leone troops are not young troops without trained Non-Commissioned Officers as the Niger Battalions are, nor are they so large a body. The object of having White Non-Commissioned Officers, is not only for purposes of drill and training but also to maintain a check upon excitable native races who when assembled in large armed bodies may at any moment from their impulsive nature become a danger. British Indian Native Officers have the requisite bravery to lead in the field and as aliens whose interests are identified with the Europeans would form a check which Local Native

Officers

Officers, even if they were obtainable would not. The rate given to each native officer in Sierra Leone is moreover slightly higher than that I suggest for British Indians, though this would of course be equalised by cost of passages from India etc.

4. The comparative cost of the existing Establishment is as follows:- (omitting Armourers) and exclusive of housing, river passages, drugs &c)

Infantry.	2	Sergeant Majors	£384.
	2	Quartermaster Sergts	384.
	2	Orderly Room Sergts	328.
	16	Colour Sergts	2304.
	16	"	1920
	16	" 2nd	1536.
Royal Artillery.			
	3	Company Sergeant Majors	558.
	3	"	432.
	3	Corporals	414.
			£8260.

Outfit 63 @ 10	-	630.
Pay	-	8260.
Passages 63 @ £35	-	2205.
Returns 42 @ 2/6	-	1916
		£13,011.

(N.B. Taken from the figures of the Inter Departmental Committee and copied in my Estimates now sanctioned for 1900-1901.)

The cost of British Indians @ one Jemadar per Company or Battery and 1 Adjutant per Battalion with one for Royal Artillery would be as follows:-

3	Native Adjutants	£180 + £12 Staff	£576
+ 20	Jemadars	£144	2880.

passages say (£15. to England and £20. to Africa = £35.

+ There are two battalions, 16 Companies, and three batteries, so this number should be 19 (note in Colonial Office)

= £35.)
) 805.
= £70. in 2 years) 23 x 35 = £805.)

Rations &c 1/- per day £18.5 @ 23 420.

Outfits 23 @ £5. 115.

£4796.

5. I submit for your consideration that from the date of arrival of the British Indian Native Officers the Establishment of British Noncommissioned Officers should be reduced by one half, and that after one year this half should be entirely abolished. The cost therefore would be as follows:-

Sanctioned for 1900-1901 £13,011. 1st year

1901-1902 half the above + cost of British Indians = £11,302. 2nd year

1902-1903 British Indians only (23) = £4796. 3rd year.

1903-1904. I Adjutant and 4 Wing Officers per Battalion 1 Adjutant 1 Jemadar Royal Artillery = 12 = £2571. 4th year

1904-1905 1 Adjutant and 2 wing Officers per Battalion 1 Adjutant R.A. = 7 = £1560. 5th year.

My proposals therefore are that no Indian Non-Commissed Officers should be appointed, but that Native Officers should be drawn from India on rates of pay approximately the same as those given to Local Native Officers of the Sierra Leone Battalion in the lack of any Material from which to create Native Officers locally. I think it is not improbable that the introduction of these Northern Indians might have a beneficial effect apart from the Military aspect of the case. I would further suggest that no time should be lost in securing these men, and effecting the reduction in cost by first halving the European establishment and then abolishing it altogether a year later.

Colonel

Colonel Willcocks as you will see from the letter of which attach a copy, written in reply to my questions on the subject, offers to go himself to India during his leave and get the right class of men and I know of no better qualified Officer for the task in or out of India. I would suggest that he should go before he becomes due for leave if you approve of these suggestions, for the sooner the system is introduced the sooner would the saving be effected and some considerable time will be occupied in selecting men and sending them to West Africa. It must be borne in mind that over and above the saving shown in the above calculation there is a large saving on the housing, drugs, river passages, invalidings etc.

I have &c,
(SGD) F. D. LUGARD.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

J. CHAMBERLAIN. M.P.

Encl N° 10

(26)

H.E.

I am of opinion that there will not be anything like efficient Hausas and Yorubas N. C. Os trained and fit to perform all the duties of N.C. Os by 1st April 1902. They will be fit to take their places on parade etc. but when interior economy and discipline are concerned they will certainly fail.

II. The Coast Battalions have many Coast men as N. C. Os, but those are not the men to keep in discipline the fighting Hausas and Yorubas which form a large part of the W.A.F.F. of Northern Nigeria. In reply therefore to Your Excellency's queries:-

(1) I think the British N.C.Os might certainly be replaced by Sikhs or Punjabi Mohammedans picked and trusted men, not merely such as C.Os may perhaps want to get rid of, I have seen a lot of that in India.

(III) If after what I have said in my opening paragraph it is still decided that Yorubas and Hausas <u>are</u> to replace white N.C.Os or Sikhs etc then I think it would be far better instead of getting out Sikh or Punjabi Mohammedan N.C.Os to get out Sikh or Punjabi Mohammedan Native Officers of the rank of Jemadar (Lieutenant) not N.C.Os specially promoted for this, but young Native Officers full of vigour, good English Scholars in some cases, who would have all the gain by good service and who would gladly come.

These Jemadars should be taken from those already on the rolls of Indian Native Officers and who are therefore sure to be good men.

They must be young and must know some English.

Their position and status would place them above any N.C. Os you could get and in two years I have no doubt they

they would do more to training these African Soldiers into good N.C. Os than any other process. I could lay my hands on many who would come. If the S of S wished I would go during my leave to India and get him just exactly what is required. I am so sure of this that I have no hesitation in saying so -- if they saw the Officer who could explain to them in their own language the work they were coming to, any number would come.

IV I do not now after my experience in Nigeria recommend Yorubas or Hausas as Native Officers i.e. as I understand Native Officers of the Army of the India - they are not sufficiently advanced for it.

Shortly then If April 1902 is fixed I say get young active Sikh or Punjabi Mohammedan Officers (Jemadars, their pay is not very high in India)

II. Before sending them fix their pay and allowances to a farthing and make it clear to them; to save much disappointment to the men (vide our Madrassis) and discontent.

III. Send their proper articles of food with them and not after them

IV Give them good accommodation not expensive but good.

V Let their portion be similar to what it is in the Army of India.

VI. Let them be seconded and not lose seniority by leaving their Regiments.

(SGD) J. WILLCOCKS, Colonel.

Certified true copy.

(ITLD) T.G.R. Chief Clerk.

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